

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 05445 01 OF 02 291059 Z

12

ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02

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USIA-12 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

RSR-01 /153 W

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R 290935 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9397

INFO SECDEF/ WASHDC

MBFR CAPITALS 631

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR/ SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USDEL SALT TWO II

AMEMBASSY ATHENS UNN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN

AMEMBASSY HSLINKI UNN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA UNN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 5445

GENEVA FOR DISTO

FROM US MBFR REP

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: MBFR: FINAL REPORT OF AD HOC GROUP

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 05445 01 OF 02 291059 Z

AT JUNE 28 MEETING, AD HOC GROUP AGREED ON TEXT OF A FINAL REPORT TO NAC. TEXT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT.

MBFR AD HOC GROUP FINAL REPORT

1. THIS AGREED REPORT IS THE FINAL ACCOUNT OF THE AD HOC GROUP ACTIVITIES DURING THE EXPLORATORY PHASE OF MBFR UP TO JUNE 28 DURING WHICH TIME THE GROUP HAD HELD ALTOGETHER 111 MEETINGS.
2. ON JUNE 25, FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE NIXON- BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE ON THE SAME DAY, THE SOVIET CHIEF DELEGATE INFORMED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP THAT HE COULD NOW
 - AGREE TO THE INSERTION OF OCTOBER 30, 1973 AS THE DATE OF THE BEGINNING OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS,
 - GIVE HIS AGREEMENT TO THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE IN ITS ENTIRETY AND
 - PARTICIPATE IN A FINAL PLENARY TO BE SET FOR JUNE 27 OR 28.
3. FINAL APPROVAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON THE COMPLETED TEXT OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS THEREUPON REQUESTED ON JUNE 24 AND OBTAINED DURING THE SAME DAY. THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION WAS SET FOR JUNE 28 AND ITS SCENARIO AGREED WITH THE EASTERN DELEGATIONS. THE AD HOC GROUP PREPARED A PRESS STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF AND AS INTERPRETATION OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE AS WELL AS SUGGESTED REPLIES TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PRESS.
4. DURING A QUADRILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE CHAIRMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE, AND THE SOVIET AND GDR REPRESENTATIVES, THE EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES ACCEPTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED ON JUNE 25 THE FOLLOWING JOINTLY PREPARED STATEMENT: " DURING NEGOTIATIONS ANY TOPIC RELEVANT TO THE SUBJECT MATTER MAY WITHOUT OBJECTIONS ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS BE INTRODUCED FOR NEGOTIATION AND DECISION BY ANY OF THOSE STATES WHICH WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY DECISIONS." THIS UNDERSTANDING WAS CONFIRMED ONCE MORE IN THE NAME OF EASTERN DELEGATIONS BY AMBASSADOR KHLESTOV DURING A FURTHER QUADRILATERAL MEETING ON JUNE 26.
5. IN PREPARATION OF THE FINAL PLENARY THE CHAIRMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, AFTER COORDINATION OF ALLIED VIEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 05445 01 OF 02 291059 Z

IN THE AD HOC GROUP IN EACH CASE, MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS IN CONTACTS WITH THE CHIEF DELEGATES OF ROMANIA, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE GDR TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON A SCENARIO OF THE FINAL PLENARY WHICH WOULD OBTAIN THE NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS FROM EITHER SIDE.

THESE ATTEMPTS PROVED FUTILE SINCE THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION WAS UN-

DER FIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO STATE THAT IT HAD NOT HAD SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS VIEWS ON DRAFTING THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE GIVEN THE ABSENCE OF PLENARY MEETINGS DURING THE RELEVANT PERIOD. THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION WAS FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO INDICATE THAT THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE, WHICH NEVERTHELESS WOULD BE ADOPTED ALSO BY ROMANIA, DID NOT CORRESPOND IN SEVERAL POINTS TO ROMANIAN PROPOSALS.

THE AD HOC GROUP DECIDED THEREFORE IN ITS MEETING ON JUNE 27 THAT A WESTERN SPOKESMAN SHOULD MAKE A BRIEF REPLY TO THE ROMANIAN STATEMENT DURING THE FINAL PLENARY, AND THAT FURTHER ALLIED REACTIONS TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO ANSWERS GIVEN BY THE WESTERN SPOKESMAN TO QUESTIONS RAISED DURING HIS PRESS CONFERENCE.

6. ON JUNE 28, DURING A SHORT (6 TH) PLENARY MEETING AT THE KONGRESSHAUS IN VIENNA- MARGARETEN, THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS ADOPTED. PRIOR TO ITS ADOPTION THE ROMANIAN CHIEF DELEGATE READ THE STATEMENT ATTACHED AT ANNEX. HE INFORMED THE MEETING SUBSEQUENTLY THAT HE INTENDED TO MAKE THESE VIEWS KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U. K. OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND RESPONDED WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: " MR. CHAIRMAN, MY COLLEAGUES AND I WISH TO POINT OUT THAT THE COMMENT JUST MADE REPRESENTS THE UNILATERAL VIEWS OF A SINGLE DELEGATION. WHILE IT CONTAINS SOME VIEWS WITH WHICH WE MIGHT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AGREE, IT IS ALSO IN SOME RESPECTS INACCURATE."

7. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FINAL PLENARY, AMBASSADOR BRYAN QUARLES VAN UFFORD GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE GERMAN EMBASSY WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY JOURNALISTS FROM EITHER SIDE AND FROM NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 05445 02 OF 02 291114 Z

12
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 5445

8. IN THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 28, ACTING IN BEHALF OF NATO AND WP COUNTRIES, RESPECTIVELY, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF BELGIUM AND POLAND CALLED ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA IN ORDER TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE PARTICIPANTS FOR THE HOSPITALITY PROVIDED. THEY INFORMED THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES AT THE SAME TIME THAT BELGIUM AND POLAND HAD RECEIVED THE MANDATE TO ACT AS LIAISON FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS.

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 05445 02 OF 02 291114 Z

9. HAVING THUS COMPLETED ITS MAJOR TASKS, THE AD HOC GROUP ADJOURNED ON JUNE 28 UNTIL IT WILL BE RECONVENED IN FALL AT A DATE AND PLACE STILL TO BE DETERMINED.

10. IT ENTRUSTED THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF TO CONTINUE IN THE MEANTIME THE SEARCH ON THE FREE MARKET FOR NATO ACCOMMODATIONS DURING THE NEGOTIATION PHASE, AND GAVE DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS SEARCH. PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR CALLING, IF REQUIRED, MEETINGS OF FUNCTIONARIES OF EMBASSIES IN VIENNA IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TASK. AT THE SAME TIME, THE BELGIAN DELEGATION WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN NATO ACCOMMODATIONS THROUGH THE ASSISTANCE OF, OR DIRECTLY FROM, THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES.

11. SEVERAL OTHER POINTS RAISED DURING THE EXPLORATIONS COULD NOT BE CONCLUDED BEFORE ADJOURNMENT OF THE AD HOC GROUP:

(A) THE QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES BOTH FOR NATIONAL

AND NATO MBFR DELEGATES WILL HAVE TO BE FURTHER PRUSUED IN NATO
PRIOR TO AN APPROACH TO THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES.

(B) EQUALLY, THE QUESTION OF WHOSE RIGHT IT IS TO CALL PLENARY
MEETINGS, WILL HAVE TO BE FURTHER ADDRESSED.

IN THE QUADRILATERAL MEETING REPORTED IN PARA. 5 ABOVE, ON JUNE
26, THE SOVIET AND DGR REPRESENTATIVES SPEAKING FOR THE WP STATES
STATED THEIR VIEW THAT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS
THEMSELVES PLENARIES SHOULD BE CALLED WHENEVER REQUESTED. ON
JUNE 28 THEY AMPLIFIED THIS BY STATING IN THE NAME OF ALL EASTERN
DELEGATIONS (EXCEPT ROMANIA) THAT EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT SHOULD
HAVE THE RIGHT TO CALL PLENARIES WHENEVER THEY WISHED. THE CHAIR-
MAN DID NOT SPECIFY NATO PREFERENCES IN THIS CONTEXT BUT ONLY STA-
TED THAT HE WOULD INFORM HIS PARTNERS IN THE ALLIANCE.

(C) FINALLY, THE QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUPS MIGHT
DESERVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION. ON JUNE 27, THE EASTERN SPOKESMAN
STATED THAT THE FINAL DECISION SHOULD BE LEFT FOR THE NEGOTIATORS
BUT IN PRINCIPLE THE WP DID NOT EXCLUDE THE IDEA OF OPEN- ENDED
WORKING GROUPS, ALTHOUGH NO GENERAL RULE SHOULD BE ADOPTED TO
MAKE
ALL WORKING GROUPS OPEN- ENDED.

IN ITS MEETING ON THE SAME DAY, THE AD HOC GROUP CONCLUDED THAT
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PAGE 03 VIENNA 05445 02 OF 02 291114 Z

THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION HAD LED TO A GENERALLY
FAVORABLE RESULT FOR NATO.

END TEXT. HUMES

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